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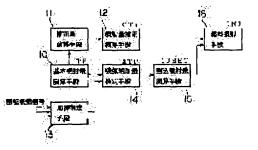
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(54) AIR-FUEL RATIO CONTROLLER FOR INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE

(57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To realize an appropriate air—fuel ratio control by estimating the increased part of an intake air amount sucked to the inside of a cylinder during an intake valve is closed after synchronous fuel injection is started at the time of acceleration judgment, and asynchronously injecting a fuel amount corresponding to the estimated increased part of the intake air amount after synchronous fuel injection is started.

SOLUTION: An acceleration operating condition is judged by acceleration judging means 13 from such a state whether or not a throttle opening and the changing amount of an intake air amount exceed a predetermined value, and at the time of acceleration judgment, the changing amount of a reference fuel injection amount TP during interruption injection calculating timing of the previous time and this time is calculated in intake air increased amount estimating means 14, and the changing amount of the intake air amount at each calculating interval is estimated. When this intake air changing amount is positive that TP is increased than the previous time, the intake air changing amount is judged whether or not it is larger than a predetermined value by interruption injection amount calculating means 15, and in the case that the intake air changing amount is at the predetermined value or more, interruption injection is executed. T



is at the predetermined value or more, interruption injection is executed. This interruption injection amount is calculated on the basis of the estimated value of the increased part of the intake air amount until the intake valve is closed after normal fuel synchronous injection.

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CLAIMS

[Claim(s)]

[Claim 1] The air-fuel ratio control system of an internal combustion engine equipped with a means characterized by providing the following to calculate fundamental fuel oil consumption according to operational status, a means to add the amount of amendments according to operational status to this basic injection quantity, and a fuel-injection means to inject this amended fuel oil consumption synchronizing with engine rotation. An acceleration judging means to judge whether it is in an acceleration state. A means to presume the increment of the amount of inhalation of air which will be inhaled in a cylinder by the time an inlet valve closes after the synchronous fuel-injection start described above at the time of this acceleration judging. A means to inject asynchronously the fuel quantity corresponding to this presumed amount increment of inhalation of air after a synchronous fuel-injection start.

[Claim 2] The presumed means of the increment of the aforementioned amount of inhalation of air is the air-fuel ratio control system of the internal combustion engine according to claim 1 which presumes the increment of the amount of inhalation of air to the timing in front of a predetermined period rather than the stage which an inlet valve actually closes.

[Claim 3] The air-fuel ratio control system of an internal combustion engine according to claim 1 or 2 characterized by providing the following. A means to presume the increment of the aforementioned amount of inhalation of air is an angle counter set to zero from the stage which the stage which subtracts from the criteria position of the degree of crank angle of the cylinder, and an inlet valve closes, or an inlet valve closes before a predetermined period. An angle measurement means between operation timing to measure the angle between timing for every asynchronous injection operation timing. A means to compute the inhalation-of-air variation between operation timing from the variation of the fuel oil consumption between operation timing. The means which carries out the presumed operation of the increment of the amount of inhalation of air based on the aforementioned amount variation of inhalation of air after the aforementioned synchronous injection start, and the output value of the angle counter at that time.

[Claim 4] The aforementioned asynchronous injection means is the air-fuel ratio control system of the internal combustion engine according to claim 3 which forbids asynchronous injection to which of whether asynchronous injection of fuel is performed, or an angle counter is set to 0, or the timing of the earlier one.

[Claim 5] The aforementioned asynchronous injection means is the air-fuel ratio control system of the internal combustion engine of any one publication of the claim 1-4 which forbids asynchronous injection as what asynchronous injection of fuel was performed once [at least], and the acceleration state ended when the variation of fuel oil consumption was negative.

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention] [0001]

[The technical field to which invention belongs] this invention relates to the equipment which controls the air-fuel ratio of an internal combustion engine.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] A fuel injection valve is arranged to the suction port of an internal combustion engine, fuel is injected to the suction port like an engine's exhaust air line synchronizing with engine rotation, and there is a fuel supply system which makes this fuel inhale in a cylinder by the following intake stroke.

[0003] Although the injection quantity of fuel is controlled to become the target air-fuel ratio demanded according to operational status, for this reason, the amount of inhalation of air is measured, and fuel oil consumption is determined according to this. In order to maintain combustion conditions good and to raise unit power and exhaust air composition, it is necessary to make correctly the air-fuel ratio of the gaseous mixture which actually burns within a cylinder in agreement with a target air-fuel ratio.

[0004] Although the newest amount information of inhalation of air is adopted in order to determine the fuel quantity injected like an exhaust air line, this amount of inhalation of air may become what was measured before the fuel injection timing at least, and the amount of inhalation of air actually inhaled in a cylinder after fuel injection in this case may not be strictly in agreement.

[0005] If it is under an engine's transitional service condition especially, the amount of inhalation of air is also changed for every rotational frequency, for example, at the time of acceleration etc., the amount of inhalation of air which will actually be inhaled in a cylinder by the time an inlet valve closes by the intake stroke rather than the amount of inhalation of air which measured the exhaust air line by which fuel is injected before becomes large, and an air-fuel ratio is changed to a RIN side. If an air-fuel ratio is not amended to this, combustion will get worse and operability will fall.

[0006] then, the variation of the amount of inhalation of air until an inlet valve closes the air-fuel ratio in such a transient from the time of fuel injection in calculating fuel oil consumption by JP,7-6422,B as an amendment thing -- predicting -- this prediction result -- being based -- fuel oil consumption -- an amendment -- things are proposed [0007] By performing amendment of fuel oil consumption according to the change prediction result of the amount of inhalation of air, supply of the fuel corresponding to the amount of inhalation of air actually inhaled in a cylinder is performed, it prevents an air-fuel ratio becoming exaggerated RIN at the time of acceleration etc., and operability is raised so much.

[8000]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] By the way, generally, from the relation which the whole quantity by which the injection timing of fuel was injected must be made to be inhaled in a cylinder in the following intake stroke, the injection end stage is decided beforehand, and an injection start stage is calculated so that fuel injection may be completed by this injection end stage. If fuel-injection pulse width, such as the time of engine low temperature, becomes large especially, supposing time so required for injection will also become long and it will set an injection end stage as BTDC20 degree with a crank angle, an injection start stage will become early [considerable]. Therefore, although an interval until it moves to the following intake stroke and an inlet valve closes from the fuel-injection start like an exhaust air line also becomes so long, even though the variation of the amount of inhalation of air is predicted and it increases fuel oil consumption since fuel injection is already begun in changing the amount of inhalation of air in the meantime, you have to wait till next fuel injection.

[0009] In this case, the amount of inhalation of air and fuel quantity which are actually inhaled in a cylinder do not correspond, but since the gap is not amended, an air-fuel ratio serves as RIN, and a flame failure may be carried out

when the worst.

[0010] Suitable AFC corresponding to the newest situation is always realized by this invention's predicting the variation of the amount of inhalation of air for the purpose of solving such a problem, and interrupting and injecting fuel if needed.

[0011]

[Means for Solving the Problem] A means by which the 1st invention calculates fundamental fuel oil consumption according to operational status, In the air-fuel ratio control system of an internal combustion engine equipped with a means to add the amount of amendments according to operational status to this basic injection quantity, and a fuel-injection means to inject this amended fuel oil consumption synchronizing with engine rotation A means to presume the increment of the amount of inhalation of air which will be inhaled in a cylinder by the time an inlet valve closes after an acceleration judging means to judge whether it is in an acceleration state, and the synchronous fuel-injection start described above at the time of this acceleration judging, It has a means to inject asynchronously the fuel quantity corresponding to this presumed amount increment of inhalation of air, after a synchronous fuel-injection start. [0012] The 2nd invention presumes the increment of the amount of inhalation of air to the timing in front of a predetermined period in the 1st invention rather than the time when an inlet valve actually closes the presumed means of the increment of the aforementioned amount of inhalation of air.

[0013] A means by which the 3rd invention presumes the increment of the aforementioned amount of inhalation of air in the 1st or 2nd invention. The angle counter set to zero from the time which the time which subtracts from the criteria position of the degree of crank angle of the cylinder, and an inlet valve closes, or an inlet valve closes before a predetermined period, An angle measurement means between operation timing to measure the angle between timing for every asynchronous injection operation timing, The means which carries out the presumed operation of the increment of the amount of inhalation of air based on a means to compute the inhalation-of-air variation between operation timing, and the aforementioned amount variation of inhalation of air after the aforementioned synchronous injection start and the output value of the angle counter at that time, from the variation of the fuel oil consumption between operation timing is included.

[0014] In the 3rd invention, as for the 4th invention, whether, as for the asynchronous injection means of fuel, asynchronous injection of fuel being performed and an angle counter forbid asynchronous injection to which of whether to be set to 0, or the timing of the earlier one.

[0015] The 5th invention forbids asynchronous injection in the 1st - the 3rd invention as that to which asynchronous injection of fuel was performed once [at least], and the acceleration state ended the asynchronous injection means of fuel when the variation of fuel oil consumption was negative.

[Function and Effect] When it is in the 1st invention and an acceleration state is judged, after the usual fuel injection is started, the increment of the amount of inhalation of air until an inlet valve closes is presumed from a changed part of fuel oil consumption (fuel-injection pulse width). And by the time it is after the usual synchronous fuel injection and an inlet valve closes according to this amount increment of inhalation of air, asynchronous injection of fuel will be performed. Even if it is at the acceleration time to which the amount of inhalation of air changes suddenly after the start of synchronous injection by this, fuel quantity can change corresponding to the amount of inhalation of air actually inhaled in a cylinder, and an actual air-fuel ratio can be maintained at desired value. Therefore, it can prevent certainly air-fuel ratios, such as the time of sudden acceleration, serving as exaggerated RIN temporarily, or producing a flame failure etc.

[0017] In the 2nd invention, if it is the same acceleration property, change of the amount of inhalation of air will become larger than the time when the direction when an engine rotational frequency is low is high. When an engine rotational frequency is low, substantial inhalation of air is completed to timing earlier than the timing which an actual inlet valve closes under the influence of spitting etc. For this reason, the actual amount of inhalation of air can be judged more to accuracy by presuming the amount of inhalation of air in the timing in front of a predetermined period rather than the time of an inlet valve closing.

[0018] In the 3rd invention, while the inlet valve is actually open after synchronous injection, the increment of the amount of inhalation of air inhaled in a cylinder is presumed, the variation of the fuel-injection pulse width for every operation timing of the asynchronous injection after a synchronous injection start, and the output value of the angle counter at that time, i.e., a period until an inlet valve closes from that time. In this case, since it is considering as the criteria of calculation of the fuel oil consumption for between [every] operation timing, change of the amount of inhalation of air can predict correctly.

[0019] In the 4th invention, asynchronous injection of fuel is forbidden, when asynchronous injection is already performed or an inlet valve closes. Since it will be inhaled by the following intake stroke and the actual air-fuel ratio in

the cylinder in the following intake stroke will be changed on the contrary even if it carries out asynchronous injection if asynchronous injection has already been carried out, and the inlet valve has closed the air-fuel ratio in an actual cylinder in accordance with desired value, when such, addition of the fuel by asynchronous injection is stopping, and prevents change of an air-fuel ratio.

[0020] When the variation of fuel-injection pulse width is negative after asynchronous injection of fuel is performed once [at least] in the 5th invention, even if the acceleration state was judged The amount of inhalation of air does not increase from last time, but the acceleration state which needs acceleration amendment of fuel substantially forbids asynchronous injection as what was ended, and, thereby, prevents generating of the error of air-fuel ratio amendment. [0021]

[Embodiments of the Invention] <u>Drawing 1</u> shows 1 operation gestalt of this invention, and the fuel injection valve 7 to which the combustion chamber of an internal combustion engine and 2 are exhaust air ports, and a piston and 3 inject [1/an inlet valve and 4/an exhaust valve and 5/a suction port and 6] fuel to a suction port 5 is formed. [0022] Although a fuel injection valve 7 operates according to the injection signal from a controller 8 and injects fuel in principle synchronizing with engine rotation, if needed, it interrupts asynchronously at the time of transient

operation etc., and is injected at it so that it may mention later.

[0023] The fuel-injection control performed by the controller 8 can be expressed as a block diagram of <u>drawing 2</u>. [0024] A means to calculate the basic fuel oil consumption TP so that 10 may become a predetermined air-fuel ratio according to operational status, for example, an engine rotational frequency, an inhalation air content, throttle opening, etc., and 11 receive this basic fuel oil consumption TP. They are an amount operation means of amendments to determine the amount of amendments according to engine cooling water temperature etc., and an injection-quantity amendment operation means to compute fuel oil consumption by 12 adding the amount of amendments to the basic fuel oil consumption TP. by these Synchronizing with engine rotation, the synchronous injection quantity CTi which sets like an engine exhaust air line and is injected by the suction port 5 is determined.

[0025] On the other hand, 13 is an acceleration judging means to judge an engine's acceleration condition, if acceleration is judged, an inhalation-of-air augend presumption means 14 to presume the amount of inhalation of air which increases in a period until an inlet valve closes after synchronous fuel injection based on change of the basic fuel oil consumption TP will be established, and according to this presumed inhalation-of-air augend, the asynchronous fuel oil consumption IJSET is computed in the interruption injection-quantity operation means 15.

[0026] And from the fuel-injection means 16, the these synchronous basic fuel oil consumption CTi and the asynchronous fuel oil consumption IJSET are injected. By the time an inlet valve 3 closes asynchronous injection after the end of synchronous injection, it will be performed, and without producing response delay, even when changing the amount of inhalation of air actually inhaled by the cylinder by this at the time of acceleration etc., fuel is supplied so that a predetermined air-fuel ratio may be maintained.

[0027] The asynchronous injection at the time of this acceleration is further explained in detail according to the flow chart of $\underline{\text{drawing 3}}$ and $\underline{\text{drawing 4}}$.

[0028] These routines are repeated every 10ms (an operation interval is 10ms), and judge transient (acceleration) operational status at Step 1 in <u>drawing 3</u> first by whether the variation delta TVO and delta QHO of throttle opening or an inhalation air content exceeded the predetermined value. If it is not a transient, it will shift to Step 17 and interruption injection (synchronous injection) of fuel will be forbidden.

[0029] In Step 1, if a transient is judged, it will set to Step 2 and an operation -1, i.e., TPm-TPm, will be computed for the variation of the basic fuel oil consumption TP between the interruption injection operation timing of last time and this time. This presumes the variation of the amount of inhalation of air in each operation interval (10ms).

[0030] At Step 3, when it judges whether it is this inhalation-of-air variation TPm-TPm -1<=0 and TP increases at the time of positive, i.e., last time, it judges whether the inhalation-of-air variation of a step 4 smell lever is larger than the predetermined value LASNI. At the time beyond a predetermined value, in order to perform interruption injection, it progresses after Step 5. In addition, as for interruption injection, the state of an increase amendment sake is not substantially performed at an end and Step 5 in fuel as what has inhalation-of-air variation small at the time of below the predetermined value LASNI at the time of negative with Step 4 (Step 16 or subsequent ones mentioned later). [0031] Although the interruption injection permission flag IJCYOM according to cylinder is read at Step 5, this IJCYOM is carried out like the flow chart (this routine is also calculated every 10ms) of drawing 4, and is calculated. Here, drawing 4 explains the content of an operation of this interruption injection permission flag.

[0032] First, at Step 18, it judges whether in k cylinders, synchronous injection was started as the bit number i= 0 and a cylinder number k= 1 at Step 19 (in addition in this example, it is carrying out for the 6-cylinder engine).

[0033] If the usual synchronous injection is started, although it will progress to Step 20 and interruption injection will be permitted as biti=1, when synchronous injection is not performed yet, it shifts to Step 26 and interruption injection

is forbidden as biti=0. That is, after synchronous injection about basic fuel oil consumption is performed, interruption injection is permitted, and interruption injection is forbidden before the start of synchronous injection.

[0034] When whether interruption injection in k cylinders was performed at Step 21 judges, the output value GZCYn of the angle counter classified by cylinder which means the end (inlet-valve close) of an intake stroke judges whether it is 0 so that it may mention later at Step 22, when not performing, and affirmed also by either, it shifted to Step 26 and interruption injection is forbidden.

[0035] Interruption injection is stopped until next synchronous injection is completed, since the control precision of an actual air-fuel ratio falls when interruption injection fuel is inhaled in a cylinder in the following cycle, even if interruption injection was already made by these or an inlet valve closes and carries out interruption injection. [0036] Angle counter GZCYnclassified by cylinder > It progresses to Step 23 at the time of 0, and it is moved to the following cylinder by making a cylinder number into k=k+1, and makes a bit number i=i+1 at Step 24. And it judges whether the permission flag of the interruption injection about all cylinders was calculated to the case of being i>=6, i.e., a 6-cylinder engine, at Step 25, and the above operation is repeated until it ends.

[0037] Thus, about each cylinder, the permission flag IJCYOM of the calculated interruption injection is read in Step 5 of <u>drawing 3</u>, and a bit number is set to i= 0 in Step 6. Here, it shall express 0#1 cylinder of bit(s), bit1=# 2 cylinder, a bit2=# 3 cylinder, a bit3=# 4-cylinder, 4#5 cylinder of bit(s), and bit5=# 6-cylinder.

[0038] From Step 6, the interruption injection quantity is computed according to a cylinder, first, it judges whether it is biti=1 at Step 7, and the angle counter GZCYn classified by cylinder at the time of interruption operation permission is read at Step 8 as interruption injection permission (i= 0, getting it blocked in this case # 1 cylinder interruption injection permission) at the time of biti=1.

[0039] This angle counter GZCYn classified by cylinder is that to which a counter value is set to 0 to the timing in front of a predetermined period rather than the timing which an inlet valve closes to a degree, or this timing from a criteria position, for example, a certain position after an intake-stroke end. As shown also in drawing 6, when the REF signal of the degree of crank angle to the cylinder inputs, or an inlet valve closes, by #1 cylinder, the initial value CAQEND which is set to zero before the predetermined period is set up. Therefore, the output value GZCYn of the read angle counter classified by cylinder expresses the remaining period (the degree of crank angle) until an inlet valve closes from that time.

[0040] If it is the same acceleration property, change of the amount of inhalation of air will become larger than the time when the direction when an engine rotational frequency is low is high. When an engine rotational frequency is low, substantial inhalation of air is completed to timing earlier than the timing which an actual inlet valve closes under the influence of spitting etc. For this reason, the actual amount of inhalation of air can be judged more to accuracy by presuming the amount of inhalation of air in the timing in front of a predetermined period rather than the time of an inlet valve closing.

[0041] At Step 9, angle reduced property CA10MS per operation interval at the time of this interruption operation permission is read. this -- for example, since an operation interval is 10ms as shown also in <u>drawing 5</u> when the engine rotational frequency at that time sets to 1200rpm, the degree of crank angle for these 10ms will be called 72 degrees [0042] And at Step 10, fuel-oil-consumption deltaTP equivalent to the increment of the amount of inhalation of air until an inlet valve closes is computed by carrying out it like the following formula based on these.

[0043] deltaTP=(GZCYi/CA10MS+1) x (TPm-TPm -1)

When the amount of inhalation of air increases after synchronous injection was started before an inlet valve closes as shown also in <u>drawing 5</u>, about the increment of the amount of inhalation of air of the time of interruption injection being permitted It asks by the augend (augend = rate of increase per operation interval) of the operation interval at that time, and fuel oil consumption (fuel-injection pulse width) in the meantime. About an increment after interruption injection is furthermore permitted until an inlet valve closes, it asks by the ratio of an angle to the operation interval of the output value of the angle counter classified by cylinder.

[0044] Supposing the angle counter GZCYi when it follows, for example, interruption injection is permitted assumes the rate of increase of a fuel-injection pulse to be the same at 120 degrees, a counter value will be set to 0 after that, namely, in between [until an inlet valve closes], the increment of the amount of inhalation of air will become 120 / 72= 1.67 times. However, since 10ms (one operation interval) will have passed by the time this interruption injection is permitted after synchronous injection, the increment of the amount of inhalation of air becomes 1+1.67=2.67 time. [0045] Therefore, fuel augend deltaTP corresponding to the inhalation-of-air augend is computable by multiplying by the rate of increase (TPm-TPm -1 per unit operation interval) of an actual fuel-injection pulse to this.

[0046] Thus, if the presumed operation of the inhalation-of-air augend is carried out, the response variable of fuel will be computed at Step 11. The fuel quantity injected to an inhalation-of-air augend with the response characteristic of the fuel injected changes. A response foresees the part, needs to inject more fuel, and can be managed with late conditions

on the conditions that a response is early at few fuel quantity. In this case, the amount of [a part for the RF of a rapid response and / of a late response] low frequency is in the response of fuel, and this response variable has become G (1). In addition, this response variable is explained in detail in JP,3-111639,A etc.

[0047] At Step 12, the interruption injection quantity IJSETi is computed as follows.

[0048] IJSETi=delta TP/G(1)+TS, however TS are fuel-injection invalid pulse width. And the interruption injection quantity IJSETi is outputted at Step 13, and interruption injection in #1 cylinder is performed.

[0049] Next, it returns to Step 7 until 6-cylinder [the amount of] ends until it progresses to Step 15 and is set to $i \ge 6$ as i = i + 1 at Step 14 that is, and the same operation is repeated.

[0050] In said step 3, when inhalation-of-air variation is negative, it moves to Step 16, and when judging whether interruption injection per time [at least] was performed in each cylinder and having injected once or more, as what the transient (acceleration) state ended, it shifts to Step 17 and interruption injection is forbidden.

[0051] When the variation of fuel-injection pulse width is negative after asynchronous injection of fuel is performed once [at least], even if the acceleration state was judged The amount of inhalation of air does not increase from last time, but the acceleration state which needs acceleration amendment of fuel substantially forbids asynchronous injection as what was ended, and, thereby, prevents generating of the error of air-fuel ratio amendment.

[0052] Next, an overall operation is explained.

[0053] If it is judged that it is an engine's operational status at the acceleration time, the fuel interruption injection quantity will be computed to perform [the augend of inhalation of air is detected from the variation of the fuel oil consumption per unit period and] asynchronous interruption injection after synchronous injection of fuel, when this augend is beyond a predetermined value.

[0054] Calculation of this interruption injection quantity presumes the increment of the amount of inhalation of air which can be set by the time it closes an inlet valve, after the usual fuel synchronous injection (it sets and performs like an engine's exhaust air line, and prepares for the following intake stroke) is performed, and computes it based on this estimate. When the variation of the fuel-injection pulse width in every predetermined unit period is computed and this variation exceeds a predetermined value after the usual synchronous fuel injection, this asks for a period (however, absolute time becomes so short that it changes according to the engine rotational frequency at that time and a rotational frequency becomes high) until an inlet valve actually closes from that time, and presumes the augend of the amount of inhalation of air from a relation with the period.

[0055] Thus, if an augend is presumed for every cylinder, the augend of the fuel according to this is computed, by making this into the interruption injection quantity, it will be after the usual synchronous injection and interruption injection (asynchronous injection) will be carried out in interruption injection timing (operation interval timing for 10ms) when an increase of the amount of inhalation of air until an inlet valve closes is presumed.

[0056] For this reason, the exaggerated RIN phenomenon which becomes possible [being able to increase the quantity of fuel corresponding to the amount of inhalation of air which will increase by the time an inlet valve actually closes after carrying out synchronous injection even if it is at the time of engine acceleration, and increasing the quantity of fuel correctly corresponding to the amount of inhalation of air actually inhaled by the cylinder], especially is easy to happen in early stages of acceleration etc. can be prevented, and a good acceleration property can be demonstrated.

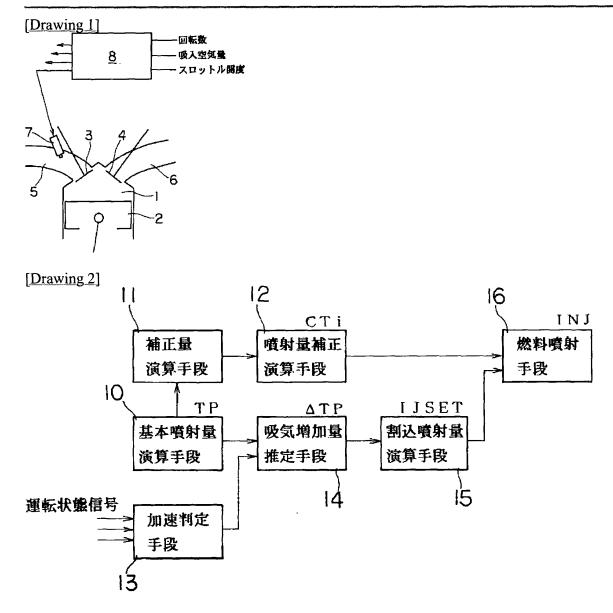
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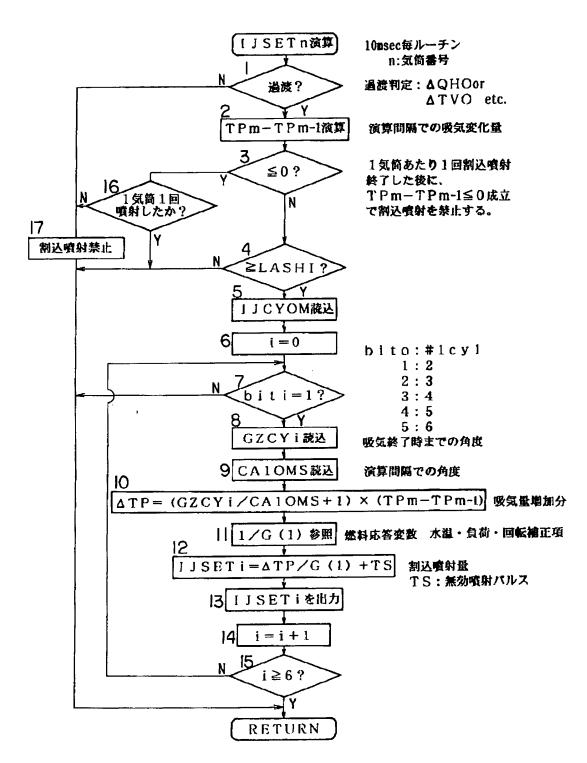
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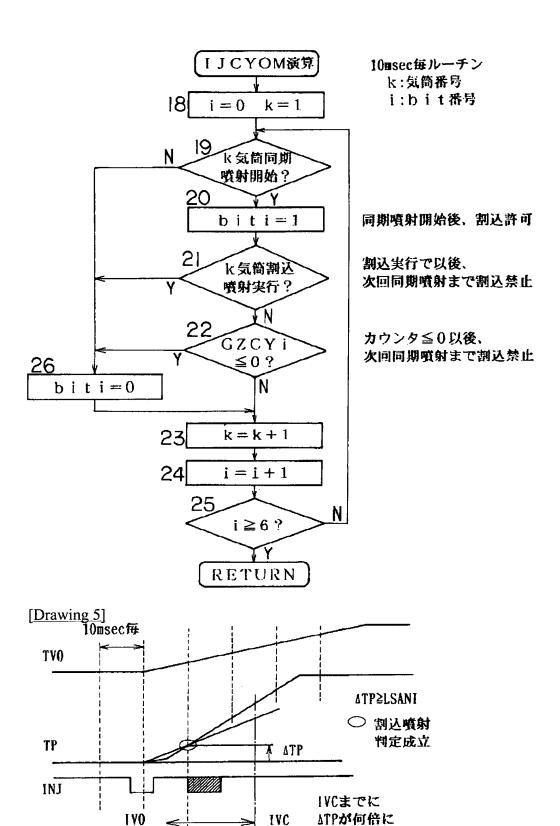
DRAWINGS



[Drawing 3]



[Drawing 4]



なるかを推定

GZCYn=120の時 120/72+1=<u>2.67倍</u>

> (1200 rpmでは、 10msec間CA=72°)

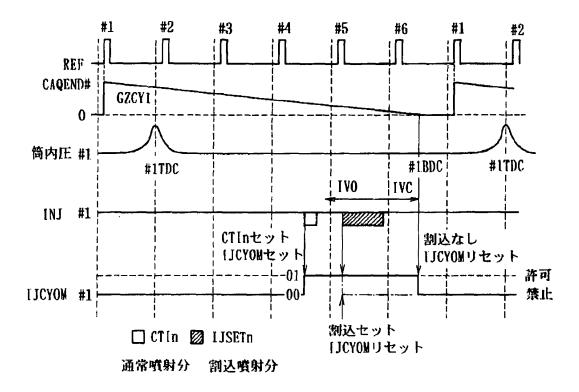
120'

[Drawing 6]

REF

290°

GZCYn カウンタ



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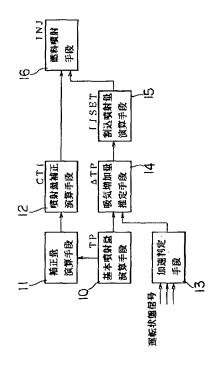
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(54) 【発明の名称】 内燃機関の空燃比制御装置

(57) 【要約】

【目的】吸気量の変動値を予測し、必要に応じて燃料を 割り込み噴射することにより、常に最新の状況に対応し た適切な空燃比制御を実現する。

【構成】運転状態に応じての燃料噴射量を機関回転に同期して噴射する燃料噴射手段10と、加速状態にあるかどうかを判断する加速判定手段13と、加速判定時には前記した同期燃料噴射開始後に吸気弁が閉じるまでの間にシリンダ内に吸入される吸気量の増加分を推定する手段14と、同期燃料噴射開始後にこの推定した吸気量増加分に対応した燃料量を非同期に噴射する手段15.16とを備える。



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【特許請求の範囲】

【請求項1】 運転状態に応じて基本的な燃料噴射量を 演算する手段と、この基本噴射量に運転状態に応じた補 正量を加算する手段と、この補正された燃料噴射量を機 関回転に同期して噴射する燃料噴射手段とを備える内燃 機関の空燃比制御装置において、加速状態にあるかどう かを判断する加速判定手段と、この加速判定時には前記 した同期燃料噴射開始後に吸気弁が閉じるまでの間にシ リンダ内に吸入される吸気量の増加分を推定する手段 と、同期燃料噴射開始後にこの推定した吸気量増加分に 10 対応した燃料量を非同期に噴射する手段とを備えること を特徴とする内燃機関の空燃比制御装置。

【請求項2】前記吸気量の増加分の推定手段は、吸気弁が実際に閉じる時期よりも所定期間前のタイミングまでの吸気量の増加分を推定する請求項1に記載の内燃機関の空燃比制御装置。

【請求項3】前記吸気量の増加分を推定する手段は、その気筒のクランク角度の基準位置から減算されていき吸気弁が閉じる時期もしくは吸気弁が閉じる時期よりも所定期間前に0となる角度カウンタと、非同期噴射演算タ 20 イミング毎にタイミング間の角度を計測する演算タイミング間角度計測手段と、演算タイミング間の燃料噴射量の変化量から演算タイミング間の吸気変化量を算出する手段と、前記同期噴射開始後における前記吸気量変化量とそのときの角度カウンタの出力値とに基づいて吸気量の増加分を推定演算する手段とを含む請求項1又は2に記載の内燃機関の空燃比制御装置。

【請求項4】前記非同期噴射手段は、燃料の非同期噴射が実行されるか、または角度カウンタが0となるかのどちらか早い方のタイミングで非同期噴射を禁止する請求 30項3に記載の内燃機関の空燃比制御装置。

【請求項5】前記非同期噴射手段は、燃料の非同期噴射が少なくとも一回行われており、かつ燃料噴射量の変化量が負のときは、加速状態が終了したものとして非同期噴射を禁止する請求項1~4のいずれか一つに記載の内燃機関の空燃比制御装置。

【発明の詳細な説明】

[0001]

【発明の属する技術分野】本発明は内燃機関の空燃比を 制御する装置に関する。

[0002]

【従来の技術】内燃機関の吸気ポートに燃料噴射弁を配置し、機関回転に同期して、例えば機関の排気行程で吸気ポートに燃料を噴射しておき、次の吸気行程でこの燃料をシリンダ内に吸入させる燃料供給装置がある。

【0003】燃料の噴射量は運転状態に応じて要求される目標空燃比となるように制御されるが、このため吸気量が測定され、これに応じて燃料噴射量が決定される。 燃焼条件を良好に維持し、機関出力や排気組成を向上させるには、シリンダ内で実際に燃焼する混合気の空燃比50 を、目標空燃比に正確に一致させる必要がある。

【0004】排気行程で噴射する燃料量を決定するため、最新の吸気量情報が採用されるのであるが、この吸気量は少なくともその燃料噴射時期よりも前に測定したものとなり、この場合、燃料噴射後に実際にシリンダ内に吸入される吸気量とは、厳密には一致しないことがある。

【0005】とくに、機関の過渡的な運転条件下にあっては、回転数毎に吸気量も変動し、例えば加速時などは燃料が噴射される排気行程以前に測定した吸気量よりも吸気行程で吸気弁が閉じるまでに実際にシリンダ内に吸入される吸気量が大きくなり、空燃比がリーン側に変動する。これに対しては空燃比の補正を行わないと、燃焼が悪化し、運転性が低下する。

【0006】そこで、このような過渡時における空燃比を補正するものとして、特公平7-6422号公報によって、燃料噴射量を演算するにあたり、燃料噴射時から吸気弁が閉じるまでの間の、吸気量の変動値を予測し、この予測結果に基づいて燃料噴射量を補正することが提案されている。

【0007】燃料噴射量の補正を吸気量の変動予測結果に応じて行うことにより、実際にシリンダ内に吸入される吸気量に対応した燃料の供給が行われ、加速時などに空燃比がオーバーリーンになるのを防ぎ、それだけ運転性を向上させられる。

[0008]

【発明が解決しようとする課題】ところで、一般に燃料の噴射タイミングは、噴射された全量が次の吸気行程においてシリンダ内に吸入されるようにしなければならない関係から、予め噴射終了時期が決められていて、この噴射終了時期までに燃料噴射が完了するように噴射開始時期が計算される。とくに機関低温時など燃料噴射パルス幅が大きくなると、それだけ噴射に必要な時間も長くなり、噴射終了時期を例えばクランク角でBTDC20。に設定したとすると、噴射開始時期は相当早くなる。したがって排気行程での燃料噴射開始から、次の吸気行程に移り吸気弁が閉じるまでの間隔もそれだけ長くなるが、もしこの間に吸気量が変動する場合には、既に燃料噴射を始めているため、吸気量の変動値を予測して燃料噴射量を増加するにしても、次回の燃料噴射まで待たなければならない。

【0009】この場合には、実際にシリンダ内に吸入される吸気量と燃料量とが対応せず、そのずれが補正されないことから空燃比がリーンとなり、最悪のときには失火することもある。

【0010】本発明はこのような問題を解決することを目的とし、吸気量の変動値を予測し、必要に応じて燃料を割り込み噴射することにより、常に最新の状況に対応した適切な空燃比制御を実現するものである。

[0011]

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【課題を解決するための手段】第1の発明は、運転状態に応じて基本的な燃料噴射量を演算する手段と、この基本噴射量に運転状態に応じた補正量を加算する手段と、この補正された燃料噴射量を機関回転に同期して噴射する燃料噴射手段とを備える内燃機関の空燃比制御装置において、加速状態にあるかどうかを判断する加速判定手段と、この加速判定時には前記した同期燃料噴射開始後に吸気弁が閉じるまでの間にシリンダ内に吸入される吸気量の増加分を推定する手段と、同期燃料噴射開始後にこの推定した吸気量増加分に対応した燃料量を非同期に 10 噴射する手段とを備える。

【0012】第2の発明は、第1の発明において、前記 吸気量の増加分の推定手段は、吸気弁が実際に閉じる時 期よりも所定期間前のタイミングまでの吸気量の増加分を推定する。

【0013】第3の発明は、第1または第2の発明において、前記吸気量の増加分を推定する手段は、その気筒のクランク角度の基準位置から減算されていき吸気弁が閉じる時期もしくは吸気弁が閉じる時期よりも所定期間前に0となる角度カウンタと、非同期噴射演算タイミング毎にタイミング間の角度を計測する演算タイミング間角度計測手段と、演算タイミング間の燃料噴射量の変化量から演算タイミング間の吸気変化量を算出する手段と、前記同期噴射開始後における前記吸気量変化量とそのときの角度カウンタの出力値とに基づいて吸気量の増加分を推定演算する手段とを含む。

【0014】第4の発明は、第3の発明において、燃料の非同期噴射手段は、燃料の非同期噴射が実行されるか、または角度カウンタが0となるかのどちらか早い方のタイミングで非同期噴射を禁止する。

【0015】第5の発明は、第1~第3の発明において、燃料の非同期噴射手段は、燃料の非同期噴射が少なくとも一回行われており、かつ燃料噴射量の変化量が負のときは、加速状態が終了したものとして非同期噴射を禁止する。

[0016]

【作用・効果】第1の発明にあって、加速状態が判定されたときは、例えば燃料噴射量(燃料噴射パルス幅)の変化分から、通常の燃料噴射が開始された後に吸気弁が閉じるまでの間の吸気量の増加分を推定する。そして、この吸気量増加分に応じて、通常の同期燃料噴射後であって吸気弁が閉じるまでの間に、燃料の非同期噴射を行う。これにより同期噴射の開始後に吸気量が急変するような加速時であっても、シリンダ内に実際に吸入される吸気量に対応して燃料量が変化し、実際の空燃比を目標値に保つことができる。したがって、急加速時など空燃比が一時的にオーバーリーンとなったり、失火を生じたりすることなどを確実に防止できる。

【0017】第2の発明において、同じ加速特性ならば、吸気量の変化は機関回転数が低いときの方が高いと 50

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きよりも大きくなる。機関回転数が低いときは、吹き返し等の影響により実際の吸気弁が閉じるタイミングよりも早いタイミングで実質的な吸気が終了する。このため、吸気弁が閉じるときよりも所定期間前のタイミングでの吸気量を推定することで、実際の吸気量をより正確に判断できる。

【0018】第3の発明では、同期噴射開始後における非同期噴射の演算タイミング毎の燃料噴射パルス幅の変化量と、そのときの角度カウンタの出力値、つまりそのときから吸気弁が閉じるまでの期間とから、同期噴射後に実際に吸気弁が開いている間にシリンダ内に吸入される吸気量の増加分を推定している。この場合、演算タイミング間毎の燃料噴射量を算出の基準としているので、吸気量の変動が正確に予測できる。

【0019】第4の発明では、燃料の非同期噴射は、既に非同期噴射が行われたか、または吸気弁が閉じたときには禁止される。既に非同期噴射していれば、実際のシリンダ内の空燃比は目標値に一致するし、また吸気弁が閉じていれば、非同期噴射しても次の吸気行程で吸入され、次の吸気行程でのシリンダ内の実際の空燃比がかえって変動するので、このようなときには、非同期噴射による燃料の追加は中止することで、空燃比の変動を防ぐ。

【0020】第5の発明では、たとえ加速状態が判定されていたとしても、燃料の非同期噴射が少なくとも一回行われた後において、燃料噴射パルス幅の変化量が負のときは、吸気量が前回よりも増加しておらず、実質的に燃料の加速補正を必要とする加速状態は終了したものとして非同期噴射を禁止し、これにより、空燃比補正の誤差の発生を防止する。

[0021]

【発明の実施の形態】図1は本発明の一実施形態を示し、1は内燃機関の燃焼室、2はピストン、3は吸気弁、4は排気弁、5は吸気ポート、6は排気ポートで、吸気ポート5には燃料を噴射する燃料噴射弁7が設けられる。

【0022】燃料噴射弁7はコントローラ8からの噴射信号に応じて作動し、原則的には機関回転に同期して燃料を噴射するが、後述するように、過渡運転時などに必要に応じて非同期に割り込み噴射する。

【0023】コントローラ8で実行される燃料噴射制御は、図2のブロック図として表すことができる。

【0024】10は運転状態、例えば機関回転数、吸入空気量、スロットル開度などに応じて所定の空燃比となるように基本燃料噴射量TPを演算する手段、11はこの基本燃料噴射量TPに対して、機関冷却水温などに応じての補正量を決定する補正量演算手段、12は基本燃料噴射量TPに補正量を加算して燃料噴射量を算出する噴射量補正演算手段であり、これらにより、機関回転に同期して、機関排気行程において吸気ポート5に噴射さ

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れる同期噴射量CTiが決定される。

【0025】他方、13は機関の加速状態を判定する加速判定手段で、加速が判定されると基本燃料噴射量TPの変化に基づいて同期燃料噴射後、吸気弁が閉じるまでの期間において増加する吸気量の推定を行う吸気増加量推定手段14が設けられ、この推定吸気増加量に応じて割込噴射量演算手段15において非同期の燃料噴射量IJSETが算出される。

【0026】そして、燃料噴射手段16からは、これら同期基本燃料噴射量CTiと、非同期燃料噴射量IJS 10 ETが噴射される。非同期噴射は、同期噴射の終了後において吸気+3が閉じるまでの間に実行され、これにより加速時などに実際にシリンダに吸入される吸気量が変動していくときでも、応答遅れを生じることなく、所定の空燃比を維持するように燃料が供給される。

[0027] この加速時の非同期噴射について、さらに図3、図4のフローチャートにしたがって詳しく説明する。

【0028】これらのルーチンは例えば10ms年に繰り返される(演算間隔が10ms)もので、まず、図 3^{20} において、ステップ1では例えばスロットル開度や吸入空気量の変化量 ΔTVO 、 ΔQHO が所定値を越えたかどうかにより、過渡(加速)運転状態を判定する。もし、過渡時でなければステップ17に移行して燃料の割込噴射(同期噴射)を禁止する。

【0029】ステップ1において、過渡状態が判定されたならば、ステップ2において前回と今回の割込噴射演算タイミング間における、基本燃料噴射量TPの変化量を演算、つまりTPm-TPm-1を算出する。これにより、各演算間隔(10ms)での吸気量の変化量を推 30定する。

【0030】ステップ3ではこの吸気変化量 $TPm-TPm-1 \le 0$ かどうかを判断し、正のとき、つまり前回よりもTPが増えたときは、ステップ4においてこの吸気変化量が所定値LASNIよりも大きいかどうかを判断する。所定値以上のときは、割込噴射を実行するために、ステップ5以降に進む。なお、ステップ4で負のときは燃料を増加補正するための状態が実質的に終了、並びにステップ5で所定値LASNI以下のときは吸気変化量が小さいものとして、割込噴射は行われない(後述 40 するステップ16以降)。

【0031】ステップ5では気筒別の割込噴射許可フラグIJCYOMを読み込むが、このIJCYOMは図4のフローチャート(このルーチンも10ms毎に演算される)のようにして演算される。ここで、この割込噴射許可フラグの演算内容を図4により説明する。

【0032】まず、ステップ18ではビット番号 i=0、気筒番号 k=1 として、ステップ19 で k 気筒において同期噴射が開始されたかどうか判断する(なお、この例では6 気筒機関を対象としている)。

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【0033】通常の同期噴射が開始されていたら、ステップ20に進みbiti=1として割込噴射を許可するが、同期噴射がまだ行われていないときは、ステップ26に移行してbiti=0として割込噴射を禁止する。つまり、基本燃料噴射量についての同期噴射が行われた後においてのみ割込噴射を許可するのであり、同期噴射の開始前には割込噴射を禁止する。

【0034】ステップ21ではk気筒においての割込噴射が実行されたかを判断し、実行されていないときは、ステップ22で後述するように吸気行程の終了(吸気弁閉)を意味する気筒別角度カウンタの出力値GZCYnが0かどうかを判断し、いずれか一方でも肯定されているときには、ステップ26に移行して割込噴射を禁止している。

【0035】これらにより、既に割込噴射がなされた、あるいは吸気弁が閉じ、割込噴射しても次のサイクルでシリンダ内に割込噴射燃料が吸入されるようなときは、 実際の空燃比の制御精度が低下するので、次回の同期噴射が終了するまで割込噴射を止める。

【0036】気筒別角度カウンタGZCYn>0のときは、ステップ23に進み、気筒番号をk=k+1として次の気筒に移し、またステップ24でbit番号をi=i+1とする。そして、ステップ25で $i \ge 6$ かどうか、つまり6気筒機関の場合において、全ての気筒にひいての割込噴射の許可フラグの演算を行ったかどうかとするまで以上の動作を繰り返すのである。【0037】このようにして、各気筒について演算された割込噴射の許可フラグIJCYOMは、図3のステップ5において読み込まれ、ステップ6においてbit0は1=0とされる。ここで、bit0は1=0とされる。ここで、1=00は1=00は1=00は1=00は1=00は1=00は1=00は1=00は1=00は1=00は1=00は1=00は1=00は1=000は1=000に1=000に1=000に1=000に1=000に1=00に1

【0038】ステップ6からは気筒別に割込噴射量を算出するもので、まず、ステップ7でbiti=1かどうかを判断し、biti=1のときは割込噴射許可(この場合、i=0、つまり#1気筒が割込噴射許可)として、ステップ8で割込演算許可時の気筒別角度カウンタGZCYnを読み込む。

【0039】この気筒別角度カウンタGZCYnは基準位置、例えば吸気行程終了後のある位置から、次に吸気弁が閉じるタイミングもしくはこのタイミングよりも所定期間前のタイミングでカウンタ値が0になるもので、図6にも示すように、例えば#1気筒では、その気筒に対するクランク角度のREF信号が入力したときに、吸気弁が閉じるもしくはその所定期間前に0となるような初期値CAQENDが設定される。したがって、読み込んだ気筒別角度カウンタの出力値GZCYnは、そのときから吸気弁が閉じるまでの残存期間(クランク角度)を表す。

【0040】同じ加速特性ならば、吸気量の変化は機関回転数が低いときの方が高いときよりも大きくなる。機関回転数が低いときは、吹き返し等の影響により実際の吸気弁が閉じるタイミングよりも早いタイミングで実質的な吸気が終了する。このため、吸気弁が閉じるときよりも所定期間前のタイミングでの吸気量を推定することで、実際の吸気量をより正確に判断できる。

【0041】ステップ9ではこの割込演算許可時の演算間隔当たりの角度換算値CA10MSを読み込む。これは、例えばそのときの機関回転数が1200rpmとす 10 ると、図5にも示すように、演算間隔は10msであるから、この10ms間のクランク角度は72°ということになる。

【0042】そして、ステップ10ではこれらに基づいて、吸気弁が閉じるまでの間の吸気量の増加分に相当する燃料噴射量ΔTPを次式のようにして算出する。

 $[0\ 0\ 4\ 3]\ \Delta TP = (GZCYi/CA10MS + 1) \times (TPm-TPm-1)$

図5にもあるように、同期噴射が開始された後に、吸気 弁が閉じるまでに吸気量が増加する場合、割込噴射が許 20 可された時点までの吸気量の増加分については、そのと きの演算間隔と、その間の燃料噴射量(燃料噴射パルス 幅)の増加量(演算間隔当たりの増加量=増加率)によ って求められ、さらに割込噴射が許可されてから吸気弁 が閉じるまでの間の増加分については、気筒別角度カウ ンタの出力値の演算間隔に対する角度の比によって求め られる。

【0044】したがって、例えば、割込噴射が許可されたときの角度カウンタGZCYiが120°で、燃料噴射パルスの増加率を同一と仮定したとすると、その後に 30カウンタ値が0となる、すなわち吸気弁が閉じるまでの間には、吸気量の増加分は120/72=1.67倍となる。ただし、同期噴射後にこの割込噴射が許可されるまでに10ms(一つの演算間隔)が経過しているので、吸気量の増加分は1+1.67=2.67倍となる。

【0045】したがって、これに対して実際の燃料噴射パルスの増加率(単位演算間隔当たりのTPm-TPm-1)を乗じることにより、吸気増加量に対応した燃料増加量 ΔTP が算出できる。

【0046】このようにして吸気増加量が推定演算されたら、ステップ11で燃料の応答変数を算出する。噴射される燃料の応答特性によって吸気増加量に対して噴射する燃料量が変化する。応答が遅い条件ではその分を見越して多めに燃料を噴射する必要があり、応答が早い条件では少ない燃料量で済む。この場合、燃料の応答には早い応答の高周波分と遅い応答の低周波分とがあり、この応答変数がG(1)となっている。なお、この応答変数については、特開平3-111639号公報等において詳しく説明されている。

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【0047】ステップ12では割込噴射显IJSETi を次のようにして算出する。

【0048】 I J S E T i = Δ T P / G (1) + T S ただし、T S は燃料噴射無効パルス幅である。そして、ステップ 13 で割込噴射量 I J S E T i を出力し、# 1 気筒における割込噴射を実行する。

【0049】次にステップ14でi=i+1として、ステップ15に進み、 $i \ge 6$ となるまでの間は、つまり 6 気筒分が終了するまでの間は、ステップ7に戻り、同じ動作を繰り返す。

【0050】前記したステップ3において、吸気変化量が負のときは、ステップ16に移り、各気筒において少なくとも1回づつの割込噴射を行ったかどうかを判断し、1回以上噴射しているときは、過渡(加速)状態が終了したものとして、ステップ17に移行し、割込噴射を禁止する。

【0051】たとえ加速状態が判定されていたとしても、燃料の非同期噴射が少なくとも一回行われた後において、燃料噴射パルス幅の変化量が負のときは、吸気量が前回よりも増加しておらず、実質的に燃料の加速補正を必要とする加速状態は終了したものとして非同期噴射を禁止し、これにより、空燃比補正の誤差の発生を防止するのである。

【0052】次に全体的な作用を説明する。

【0053】機関の運転状態が加速時であることが判断されたならば、単位期間当たりの燃料噴射量の変化量から吸気の増加量を検出し、この増加量が所定値以上のときは、燃料の同期噴射後に、非同期の割込噴射を行うべく、燃料割込噴射量を算出する。

【0054】この割込噴射量の算出は、通常の燃料同期噴射(機関の排気行程において実行され、次の吸気行程に備える)が行われた後、吸気弁が閉じるまでの間における吸気量の増加分を推定し、この推定値に基づいて算出する。これは、通常の同期燃料噴射後に、所定の単位期間毎における燃料噴射パルス幅の変化量を算出し、この変化量が所定値を越えたときは、そのときから実際に吸気弁が閉じるまでの期間(ただし、絶対的な時間はそのときの機関回転数に応じて変化し、回転数が高くなるほど短くなる)を求め、その期間との関係から吸気量の増加量を推定する。

【0055】このようにして、各気筒毎に増加量を推定したならば、これに応じた燃料の増加量を算出し、これを割込噴射量として、通常の同期噴射後であって、吸気弁が閉じるまでの間の、吸気量の増加が推定されたときの割込噴射タイミング(10msの演算間隔タイミング)において、割込噴射(非同期噴射)する。

【0056】このため、機関加速時にあっても、同期噴射した後に実際に吸気弁が閉じるまでの間に増加する吸気量に対応して燃料を増量でき、実際にシリンダに吸入される吸気量に対応して正確に燃料を増量することが可

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能となり、とくに加速初期などに起こりやすいオーバー リーン現象を防ぎ、良好な加速特性を発揮させることが できる。

【図面の簡単な説明】

- 【図1】本発明の構成を示す概略構成図である。
- 【図2】同じく制御系のブロック図である。
- 【図3】制御動作を示すフローチャートである。
- 【図4】同じく制御動作のフローチャートである。
- 【図5】吸気量の増加量を推定するための説明図であ

る。

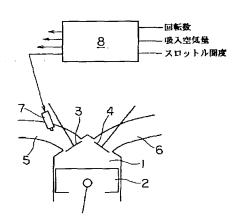
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*【図6】気筒別の燃料の同期噴射と割込噴射のタイミングを示す説明図である。

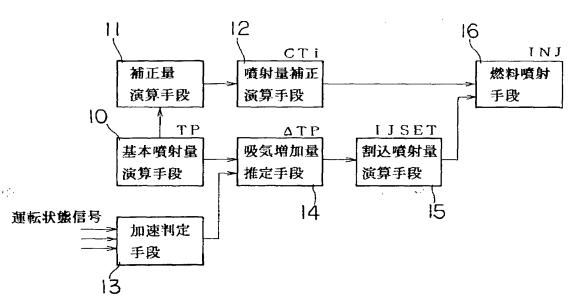
【符号の説明】

- 10 基本燃料噴射量演算手段
- 11 補正量演算手段
- 12 噴射量補正演算手段
- 13 加速判定手段
- 14 吸気増加量推定手段
- 15 割込噴射量演算手段
- *10 16 燃料噴射手段

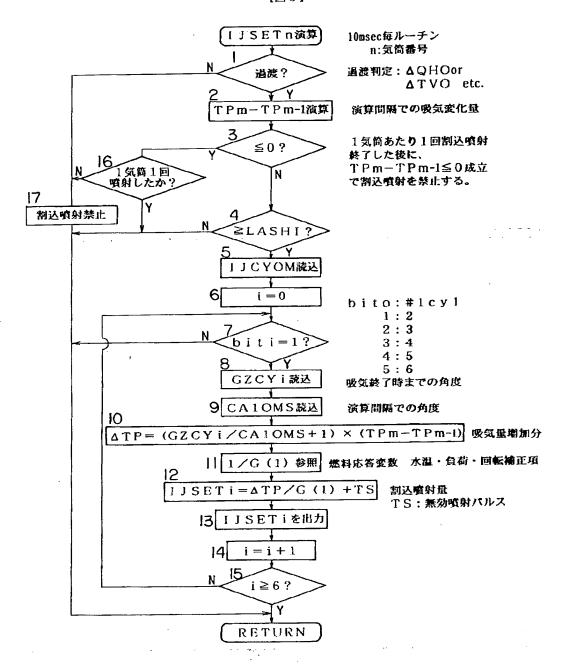
【図1】



【図2】



【図3】



[図4]

